

REMARKS

Applicant wishes to thank Examiner Webman for the helpful and courteous discussion conducted with Mr. William Beaumont, his representative, on April 25, 2007. During the discussion, it was noted that in the Amendment and Restriction Response of January 9, 2007, Applicant provisionally elected Group II (claims 51-55, 62, 67-69 and 74) with traverse. See page 19, paragraph 1 of the Amendment of January 9, 2007.

Further, it was also noted during the discussion that Applicant provisionally elected "siderite" (iron carbonate) as the single macro-/micronutrient species with traverse. See page 19, paragraph 2 of the Amendment of January 9, 2007.

REQUEST FOR RELIEF

In view of the above comments and discussion with Examiner Webman, it is respectfully urged that the Notice of Non-responsiveness of April 18, 2007, be withdrawn and that further examination on the merits be expedited without further delay.

Applicant remains of the view that this application remains in condition for allowance, and that the Restriction Requirement of December 13, 2006, was unwarranted for the reasons noted in the Amendment and Restriction Response of January 9, 2007.

Favorable consideration is earnestly solicited.

CONCLUSION

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

In the event any variance exists between the amount of fees paid upon filing this

S/N: 09/880,322

Attorney Docket No. 70074.0001US01

document and the Patent Office charges for filing this document, including any fees required under 37 CFR §1.136 for any necessary extension of time to make the filing of this document timely, please charge or credit the difference to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a request is hereby made under 37 CFR §1.136 for the necessary extension of time.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.

April 30, 2007

Date

William E. Beaumont

William E. Beaumont

Registration No. 30,996

P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903
Telephone No. (202) 326-0300
Facsimile No. (202) 326-0778

23552

Patent & Trademark Office